Amdt. Dated December 2, 2003

Reply to Office Action of September 5, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-21. (Canceled)
- (Original): A method of synthesizing a modular fluorescence sensor 22. comprising the steps of:
 - forming an asymmetric compound of the following general formula: (a)

Fl—
$$(CH_2)_n$$
— N

$$Sp$$

$$N$$

$$(CH_2)_x$$
— An

$$H$$

wherein:

Fl is a fluorophore;

N is a nitrogen atom and H is a hydrogen atom;

Sp is an aliphatic spacer;

An is an anchor group for attaching the sensor to a solid substrate; and n = 1 or 2, and x is any integer; and

- replacing hydrogen atoms with B_{d1} and B_{d2} groups, wherein B_{d1} and (b) B_{d2} are independently selected binding groups capable of binding an analyte molecule to form a stable 1:1 complex.
- 23. (Original): The method of claim 22, wherein Fl is selected from the group consisting of naphtyl, anthryl, pyrenyl, phenanthryl, and perylenyl.

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24. (Original): The method of claim 22, wherein B_{d1} is R₁-B(OH)₂ and B_{d2} is R₂-B(OH) 2, wherein R₁ and R₂ are aliphatic or aromatic functional groups

selected independently from each other, and B is a boron atom.

(Currently amended): The method of claim 24, wherein R₁ and R₂ are 25.

selected from the group consisting of: methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, phenyl, methoxy,

ethoxy, butoxy, and phenoxy groups.

26. (Original): The method of claim 24, wherein the step of replacing of

hydrogen atoms comprises adding orthobromomethyl phenylboronic acid.

27. (Original): The method of claim 22, wherein Sp is a straight-chain

alkane.

28. (Original): The method of claim 27, wherein the straight-chain alkane

comprises 9 carbon atoms.

(Original): The method of claim 28, wherein the straight-chain alkane 29.

comprises 6 carbon atoms.

30. (Original): The method of claim 22, wherein An comprises an organic

functionality.

31. (Original): The method of claim 22, wherein An comprises methyl.

32. (Original): The method of claim 22, wherein An comprises phenyl.

33-60. (Canceled).